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Forward Together campaign hopes to get back on track with help of new coach



FILE PHOTO | PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian

Michael Thompson, senior associate athletics director of communications and marketing, speaks during the unveiling of the Forward Together campaign this past summer. Forward Together has raised \$44.5 of their \$150 million goal.

BY JOHN MCEACHIN
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Though the University of Mississippi football team may have taken a step backward this season, fundraising has contin-

ued to push forward.

The Ole Miss athletics program announced a new fundraising campaign called Forward Together this past summer. They plan to raise money to build a new basketball arena and ex-

pand and renovate Vaught-Hemingway Stadium.

After Ole Miss launched the campaign, the football team posted a season that cost Head Coach Houston Nutt his job after a 30-13 loss to Kentucky, who was then winless in the SEC. The announcement came on Nov. 7, two days shy of three weeks before the Rebels would finish the season with a 31-3 loss to arch-rival Mississippi State.

The Rebels are currently 2-10 with zero SEC wins on the year having just finished their worst football season since 1946 when the football team went 2-7. This is the first season ever that the team has lost 10 games.

Danny White, executive director of the Ole Miss Athletics Association Foundation, said the campaign has been a success, despite the poor season.

Even after a 30-7 loss at Vanderbilt early in the season, the campaign still raised \$44.5 million out of the total \$150 million needed for the whole campaign, according to the official site.

"I think with any campaign there's going to be highs and lows," White said. "Certainly our fans are disappointed in the football season, but I know that they're excited about the direction we're going and rebuilding that program, and ultimately getting back to the level of competition we all aspire to."

White said the team's struggles slowed the fundraising, but he also said it has gotten back on track since the athletics department decided to release Nutt.

Athletics Director Pete Boone said he believes this past football season did have a negative impact on the campaign, but the change in the coaching staff should help put the fans' giving back on track.

"Every time you have a new coach come in, there's going to be sizzle — there's going to be excitement," he said. "There's going to be energy."

Michael Thompson, senior associate athletics director of communication marketing, said he feels like the campaign is still

in good shape.

"I'm not concerned," he said. "I think our fans and donors' generosity has been unmatched over the last however many months."

Thompson said it is important to not let one season get in the way of the long-term goals for the campaign.

"This campaign is not about today," he said. "It's not going to get built overnight, and our fan base sees this is long term and we are building on something for many, many, many years."

The fundraising is at \$30 million of the \$45 million needed for the first phase of the football stadium renovations. All of Phase 1 will cost \$100 million, which includes the basketball arena. Phase 2 will cost \$50 million to build the north end zone of the football stadium.

Forward Together has also raised a little over \$3 million in philanthropic giving out of the \$50 million needed, according

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OPD launches investigation on local animal cruelty claims

BY KEVIN WILLIAMS
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Oxford law enforcement officials are investigating instances of animal cruelty following reports by homeowners claiming that their pets have been shot and wounded.

The shootings are being investigated by the Oxford Police Department and the Lafayette County Sheriff's Office.

A recent incident occurred when a woman's cat was shot with a pellet gun, according to Oxford Police Department Chief Mike Martin.

Lee Payne, a veterinarian at Animal Clinic of Oxford, said shootings could certainly be lethal and cause serious medical problems.

"If it's a superficial thing, you don't do anything with it, or you can go all the way up to major surgeries with broken bones or major abdominal surgeries," Payne said.

In another incident, an Oxford resident's dog was found shot in the leg in her driveway. The dog endured six surgeries over the next two and a half weeks before pass-

ing away.

Jennifer Stobbe, a veterinarian with Pampered Paws Animal Hospital in Oxford, said she believes animal cruelty is a problem in the state.

"In the first three months of being a vet in Mississippi, I saw more animals shot than I had in the 14 or 15 years working for other vets in other states," she said.

In 2010, there were 133 reported cases of shooting a pet in the United States.

Mississippi only had two. However, statistics were not provided for shooting with a non-lethal weapon.

Overall 1,077 cases of animal abuse were recorded in the United States, and Mississippi had only 14.

Martin said those persons involved in the shooting of animals, if caught, would face a misdemeanor charge of animal cruelty and a potential fine of up to \$2,500 and/or six months in jail.

Oxford police ask those with information to help solve cases of animal cruelty to call Crimestoppers at 662-234-TIPS.

Additional reporting by Jacob Batte.

Will students holiday shop in Oxford?

BY LEE HARRIS
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Black Friday sales increased 7 percent this year compared to 2010, according to Shopper-Trak research.

This is a good sign for retailers heading into the holiday buying season. The question is whether this increase will translate into higher profits for Oxford's businesses.

University of Mississippi student Amanda Knight, an Oxford local, said she usually does her shopping in Oxford.

"I've already started shopping and bought several presents in Oxford," she said. "The majority of the presents that I buy for Christmas are from Oxford."

Knight said shopping in town is more convenient than traveling to Memphis or Tupelo, and shopping online for gifts can be difficult.

"If you're looking online, you can't just say 'Oh, that looks like something they would like,' or 'I think that would look good on them,'" she said. "When you buy it in person, you get to touch it, you can feel it and see if it's really good quality."

Although the national sales fig-

ures for Black Friday increased, this increase wasn't necessarily felt by Oxford's local shops. Tori Card, the store manager at Pink and Proper on the Square, said they had a good day, but it wasn't anything like the long lines and midnight sales at some of the larger retailers.

"A lot of it was like a normal Friday," Card said. "A lot of (shoppers) had probably already been to the Best Buys in Tupelo and Memphis to get the huge Black Friday deals."

In many respects, Oxford can't as easily use Black Friday as an indicator for the holiday seasons like other retailers do. Of the more than 16,000 students on the Oxford campus, more than 35 percent are from out-of-state, and many of the in-state students are likely from other areas of Mississippi. With many of Oxford's potential shoppers from out-of-town, Card said Oxford's shops depend on their unique niche status to attract shoppers.

"A lot of people come shop in Oxford because they know each store is unique and will have something special they don't see other places," she said. "We're going to have something that's

different but also quality."

Despite the Square's niche status that appeals to some, many of those out-of-town shoppers will choose to skip shopping in Oxford.

Kelsey Breathitt, a finance and Spanish senior from Lexington, Ky., said she prefers to shop back home.

"I've got most of my Christmas shopping done, and I did it at home," she said. "They have more selection, a lot of variety and better prices."

Another factor that likely held down Oxford's Black Friday sales was the fact that the Mississippi State game was in Starkville. When the game is not in Oxford, more students tend to go out of town for the Thanksgiving shopping sales.

"Last year was a lot bigger just because of the State game," Card said. "Students came back after eating turkey with their families Thursday and came back Friday so they'd be here for the game."

With slower sales over Thanksgiving break, Oxford's businesses will have the next two weeks before finals are over to get students into their stores before they leave for the winter holidays.

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Is virtual learning the future of education?



BY ANGELA ROGALSKI
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As we return from our Thanksgiving break and begin traditional classes again, along with elementary and high schools all over the country, a feeling of normalcy settles us back into the routine. We're used to and comfortable with the education mandated by our forefathers. But "normal" classrooms are being challenged by a new world in learning, a new tactic to reach some students who supposedly don't adapt to the everyday way – something

called the virtual classroom. We've all heard of online classes, of course. We're even offered quite a few here at Ole Miss through the Angel Program. But a company called K12 Inc., of Herndon, Va., has become the country's largest provider of full-time public virtual schools, disputing the traditional American idea that all learning occurs in a schoolhouse where students learn everything together and share the experience. In an article that appeared in the Washington Post, in the K12's virtual schools, learning is largely solitary with lessons delivered online to a child who progresses at his or her own pace. Originally conceived as a way to teach a small part of the home-schooled students and oth-

ers who need flexible schooling, the virtual school has evolved into an alternative to the traditional school experience, offering a chance at learning for kids who don't exactly excel in or enjoy the conventional classroom; those kids who are sometimes bullied or the ones who are super-high achievers, the strugglers or the drop-outs. And even those that have suddenly become teenage parents and have no available day care at their disposal. It's a pretty sweet deal. You don't have to worry about getting up at 5:30 a.m. to catch a 6:20 a.m. bus each morning like my kid has to. You just tumble out of bed at your convenience, pad over to the computer and start your dai-

ly school activities pretty much when the mood strikes you. And it's a very lucrative business for the providers as well. According to the Post, in the past fiscal year K12 had a revenue of \$522 million – a 36 percent increase from the prior year. Its net income after a series of acquisitions was \$12.8 million, a nice little drop in the bucket. The Post said that about 250,000 students are enrolled full-time in virtual public schools in 30 states, granted just a fraction of the country's 50 million schoolchildren, but the numbers are growing fast. In today's world where we embrace EVERYTHING digital and "virtual" I just find myself leery of this particular type of education. Online classes as a

minor part of the curriculum are fantastic. For those of us, like myself, who have decided to go back to school and also work, being able to take some of your classes at home at your convenience can be a Godsend. But I'm just not sold on an entire school system being conducted in a virtual classroom. What about interaction with friends, social engagements, science fairs – I mean, the school experience is so much more than simply sitting behind a desk. If that were the case, then maybe the virtual classroom would be the perfect solution. In this case, I don't think so.

Angela Rogalski is a senior print journalism major who lives in Abbeville. Follow her on Twitter @abbeangel.

A new look at the plus/minus grading system

Brian Barnes (bdbarnes13@gmail.com), Douglass MacKimm, Baker Boler, Wes Sutton and Tom Fletcher are students in the Lott Leadership Institute who have been working toward gathering information about the new plus/minus grading scale and argue for its use in all undergraduate classes.

The new plus/minus grading scale has been written about multiple times since its introduction, but we have a slightly different take. We are in favor of the scale, but are opposed to leaving the decision of its use to the discretion of the teacher. According to the university's website, the current policy is that "the assignment of grades is the prerogative of the instructor, who may decide whether or not to use the +/- grade options." In other words, the choice of using a +/- grading scale is left up to individual teachers, and is not subject to mandatory use from department chairs or the university as a whole. There are benefits to allowing teachers to choose their own grading scale. For example, teachers retain their autonomy in the classroom, or grading scales might be constructed differently for various class types.

However, the benefits to a uniform grading scale in all undergraduate classes outweigh the benefits of leaving the scale to teacher discretion. At some point, the rights of students must be protected. Students deserve to have a clear cut grading scale they can be confident in having in every class. They must be evaluated on a level playing field so that no student is subject to an unfair disadvantage. One might argue that the expertise of the teacher must be respected and that they should retain autonomy in the classroom. However, the +/- grading scale does not take away this right. Teachers may still grade on a 0-100 scale. For the purposes of the professors, the only difference would be the final translation of the numerical grades into GPAs. Secondly, and most impor-

tantly, the use of +/- has been introduced at Ole Miss with its intent on the university website as "to give instructors the ability to more accurately assess and report a student's performance." The +/- grading scale does not take any ability away from the teacher. If anything, it gives them more ability to accurately assess their students. Allowing for multiple grading scales to exist creates an unequal assessment of students' performances among multiple classes because of an inconsistent translation of numerical grades into GPAs. Under the current policy, a hypothetical situation of inequality because of the grading scales would be as follows: two students put forth the same effort in two different classes and both receive a 92. Under the current policy, one might receive a 3.7 GPA and the other a

4.0 GPA, depending on the policy the teacher chose. Regardless of the difference in course, this creates different expectations and evaluations among students that result in unequal grading. We are arguing for a uniform, equal grading policy in all university undergraduate classes. Students deserve to be evaluated equally among their peers and to have assured expectations of grading policies in the classroom. A uniform grading policy would add to the overall academic reputation of the university. In a university's academic setting, students and teachers should be on the same page. They should be confident in their academic policies. They should exhibit a degree of unity and cooperation that a uniform grading policy could only help

to promote. A uniform grading policy would contribute to developing a more coherent academic setting at Ole Miss. If the +/- grading scale were instituted in every class, teachers would still have the ability to use their expertise in evaluating students as they see fit. In fact, the policy would promote more equal evaluation of students because of more specific grading criteria. To the students and teachers: regardless of your feelings about the new +/- grading scale, think about grading criteria as a whole. Grading should be consistent and dependable in a reputable academic setting such as the one we are part of. Rather than kind-of introduce a new policy, let's accept it completely and exhibit a degree of coherence and unity, avoiding inconsistency and inequality.

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The Daily Mississippian

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The Daily Mississippian welcomes all comments. Please send a letter to the editor addressed to The Daily Mississippian, 201 Bishop Hall, University, MS, 38677 or send an e-mail to dmeditor@gmail.com.

Letters should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 300 words. Third party letters and those bearing pseudonyms, pen names or "name withheld" will not be published. Publication is limited to one letter per individual per calendar month.

Student submissions must include grade classification and major. All submissions must be turned in at least three days in advance of date of desired publication.



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to the official campaign website. White said they have not started to raise money for Phase 2.

He also said they are further ahead than he expected at this stage in the campaign.

One of the decisions that will likely affect whether the campaign will reach its goals or not is who the university decides to hire as the next head coach. If the next coach is successful, the chances are that the campaign will succeed. If the next coach does not succeed, however, Ole Miss could have a harder time raising the money.

"I think it's critically important that we get a very good coach in here that can compete in the toughest division of the toughest conference in America," White said. "That's what excites our fans as we play at the very highest level."

Boone also said it is critical Ole Miss gets the right head coach, and he said it is important to have a competitive program.

"It's critical," he said about the importance of hiring a good coach. "We've gone through eight years of struggle with some positive blips in and out,

but we haven't established a solid program, and we've got to do that."

The question is what exactly defines success. White said he did not think it was a certain number of wins, but it meant giving the fans hope for the future.

"I think it's more about getting our football program back in the right direction," he said. "And I think that's going to happen here pretty quickly."

On the same day he announced the decision to fire Nutt, Boone also announced at the Monday press conference he will retire in December 2012 at the latest.

Although he will still be the athletics director for possibly another year, Boone will not hire the next football coach. In his place, Ole Miss football legend Archie Manning and Mike Glenn, executive vice president of FedEx, will head a search committee for the new coach. The committee is also responsible for finding the next athletics director.

The search committee also in-



COURTESY OLE MISS SPORTS INFORMATION DESK

A composite sketch courtesy of Ole Miss Sports Information shows the projection of a new basketball arena on campus from the fund-raising benefits of Forward Together. The money will also help expand Vaught-Hemingway Stadium.

cludes Richard Noble, the president of the Ole Miss Alumni Association, Ronald Rychlak, a university law professor, and Ethel Young-Minor, an associate professor at Ole Miss, who are all on the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee at Ole Miss.

"We're really excited about

that," White said. "Certainly Archie's experience in football circles and his network is going to serve Ole Miss very, very well."

Boone said Manning will bring to the table his knowledge about the game, contacts and the ability to find out a lot of informa-

tion about people. On the other hand, he said Ole Miss alumnus Glenn will bring organizational skills and understanding of budgets, packages and negotiating.

"The two of them together have different sorts of skill sets, but both of them fit really well together," Boone said.

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Margaret White

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ADHD medication abuse rising on college campuses



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY HEATHER APPLEWHITE | The Daily Mississippian

BY WILL BEDWELL
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Students pull long nights studying for tests, finishing projects and completing homework, but for some students, coffee and energy drinks aren't enough to stay up and stay focused.

More and more college students are turning to ADHD medication to solve this problem.

Conner Hicks, a freshman undecided major, is prescribed to take ADHD medication by his doctor.

"I use it as prescribed every day, but I tend to use it sometimes just to keep myself awake to get my school work done," he said.

Alan Desanties, a professor and researcher at the University of Kentucky, tracked the use on his campus and found that 30 percent of students have illegally used ADHD medications. Desanties said this trend is occurring on college campuses across the nation.

The rapid expansion in the last decade of the prescription and use of ADHD medications, including Adderall, Ritalin and Vyvanse, has worried many health professionals.

The American Association of Poison Control Centers found that between the late 1990s and the mid 2000s, ADHD prescriptions increased 80 percent. At the same time, they found emergen-

cy calls from intentional abuse of ADHD medication rose 76 percent.

A study sponsored by the Federal Drug Administration and the Federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality published just a few weeks ago in the New England Journal of Medicine found that ADHD medications do not increase heart risks in children and teenagers.

While this put many parents of children prescribed to these medications at ease, several doctors still warn that the abuse of ADHD medications can lead to heart risks and many other problems.

Barbara Collier, director of the University of Mississippi's Health Services, said ADHD medications are indeed stimulants and can be dangerous when abused.

"The effect stimulants have on people who have ADHD is totally different than it would be on someone who does not have ADHD," she said.

"It does tend to cause rapid heart rate, insomnia, agitation, anxiety and headaches."

Collier said she believes students abuse ADHD medication

in order to stay awake and study for longer periods of time, often before an exam.

Hicks said he takes the medication when there is a big test he needs to study for or when he has a lot of homework.

He also said he is happy with the results from this routine.

"Anytime that I do have a big test coming up then I take more medication and study, my grades tend to be better than they would be if I were just to use (the medication) regularly," Hicks said.

Collier said many students who abuse ADHD medication to stay up for long periods of time don't think about how they will feel the next day, and that abuse also leads to procrastination.

"On college campuses, those students don't use their semester, don't use their days and for some reason think staying up all night will save them," she said.

Hicks said he agrees that using ADHD medication inappropriately can lead to procrastination, but he said he believes each person must understand how it affects them personally.

"The fact is that you have to be able to regulate yourself and know how much is a good level

for you so you don't take too much of it," he said. "You have to use the right amount for you and not abuse it to a point where you take bunches of (medication) every day."

All ADHD medications are labeled schedule two drugs because they have such a high abuse potential, and Collier said this abuse can often lead to addiction.

"(Students) think they need it for the next day and the next day, and eventually they become addicts," Collier said.

Students who are not prescribed the drugs are treated the same as if they were taking illegal drugs by the university and the state of Mississippi.

Collier said she has known students who have been found with amphetamines not prescribed to them in their possession and were subsequently arrested.

"If you are selling it, giving it away or taking it, you could be arrested," she said.

The net gains and loses to students grades from ADHD medication abuse has not been quantified, but other outcomes such as jail time and addiction are possible.

The Ole Miss

Class Portraits

Last Chance

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Student Union Lobby
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Freshmen, sophomores and juniors do not schedule appointments. Just show up and your photo will be taken on a walk-in basis.

Volleyball finishes season with four-set win over Alabama

BY AUSTIN MILLER
thedmsports@gmail.com

The Ole Miss volleyball team (11-17, 7-13 SEC) closed out the 2011 season with a win, as the Rebels defeated the Alabama Crimson Tide in four sets (25-23, 24-26, 25-20, 25-18) Friday night. With the win, Ole Miss finished the season on a two-game winning streak that also included a straight-set win at Mississippi State the week before.

"It was a great way to end the season," Ole Miss Head Coach Joe Getzin said. "It really speaks volumes about the team that we went 1-9 in the first half of conference play, but turned things

around and went 6-4 in the second half against the same teams. They never gave up or quit along the way.

Springer, one of the team's two seniors, led the team with 25 digs, which tied a season high for her. Philpot, a junior, notched a triple-double with 14 kills, 44 assists and 13 digs. Sophomore Kara Morgan turned in a double-double with 12 kills and 18 digs while juniors Allegra Wells and Ashley Veach also tallied double-digit kills and digs, respectively, to lead the Rebels.

"I was pleased with Morgan's (Springer) performance and a triple-double for Amanda Philpot, and that doesn't happen unless we're passing well," Getzin

said. "It was a great team effort all the way around."

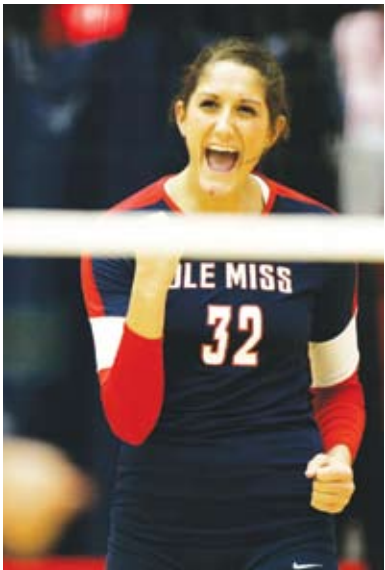
In the first set, Ole Miss led 8-4 and later 17-12, which both forced Alabama timeouts. Coming out of the second timeout, the Crimson Tide went on a 6-2 run to draw within one at 19-18 before Ole Miss called timeout and went on to win the first set, 25-23, on a kill from sophomore Kellie Goss.

In the second set, which saw eight ties, Ole Miss took a 20-16 lead before Alabama responded with a 6-2 run to tie the set at 22. The teams traded points before Alabama strung together back-to-back points to even the match at a set each.

Coming out of halftime, Ala-

bama jumped out to a 5-1 lead and later a 9-5 lead before Ole Miss tied the set at 13 after three straight points. The Rebels took a 15-14 lead on a kill from Philpot and took control of the match with a 25-20 win in set three.

Ole Miss and Alabama traded runs early in the fourth set, with the Rebels taking a 3-0 lead and the Crimson Tide then taking a 5-3 lead. Ole Miss wrestled control away when they took a 10-9 lead, leading by as many as seven points at 18-11 after six straight points, and won the fourth and decisive set on a block from Philpot and senior Regina Thomas, who finished with nine kills in her final game.



PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian

Sophomore Kara Morgan celebrates a point for Ole Miss in Friday's win over Alabama.

OLE MISS SPORTS INFORMATION

Women's hoops wins third straight, wins at UMass

AMHERST, Mass. – Nikki Byrd led four players in double figures as the Ole Miss women's basketball team won its third straight game, 72-67, at UMass Saturday afternoon.

With the win, Ole Miss improved to 4-1 overall, while UMass fell to 1-4.

The win gave Ole Miss its third 4-1 start over the last three seasons.

It also pushed the Rebels' winning streak to three games, the longest since the 2009-10 season when Ole Miss won five straight from Jan. 6 - Jan. 24.

The win gave the Rebels back-to-back wins on the road for the first time since Ole Miss won three straight on the road from Nov. 27 - Dec. 2, 2009.

Byrd recorded her third consecutive double-double and eighth career double-double with a career-high 26 points and 17 rebounds.

Byrd is the first Ole Miss player since Arminite Price to record three consecutive double-doubles. Price accomplished the feat in 2007.

Valencia McFarland added 15 points, six boards and five assists, Amber Singletary scored a career-high 11 while Whitney Hameth scored 10.

For the game Ole Miss shot 36.9 percent from the floor (24-65) and came up big from the free throw line, finishing 19-24 for 79.2 percent.

Ole Miss made its first two field goal attempts of the

game before missing its next seven as UMass used a 10-0 run to take an early 10-4 lead with 14:25 left in the half.

The Minutewomen pushed their lead to 13 points, 35-21, with 3:57 remaining in the first half. From that point, Ole Miss went on a 13-1 run over the final 3:57 of the half to pull to within two at the break, 36-34, as Byrd hit a shot at the buzzer.

In the first half, Singletary led Ole Miss with eight points while McFarland and Nikki Byrd each recorded seven. The Rebels shot 41.2 percent (14-34) from the floor while the Minutewomen shot 53.8 percent (14-26).

The Rebels pulled to within one on a pair of free throws from Singletary, 46-45, with 11:43 to play and took the lead for the first time since Ole Miss led 4-0 as the Rebels went up 49-48 with 9:48 to play.

A put back from Danielle McCray with 4:19 left gave Ole Miss a 59-56 lead.

Ole Miss will host Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

HOOPS,

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22 points, had a good look at the basket, but his three-point attempt at the buzzer bounced off the rim and sent the game into overtime.

In overtime, freshman guard Jarvis Summers made two free throws to extend the Rebels' lead to 64-61. Summers, in his second career start, made five of his six free throws in the extra period and finished with 13 points for the game.

On the Hurricanes' next possession, their last of the game, sophomore guard Dundreous Nelson came up big, blocking Miami junior guard Durand Scott at the rim. After a scramble for the rebound, Miami senior guard Malcolm Grant ended up with the ball and his desperate three fell short as time expired.

"I kind of figured they were going to go to Durand the whole way," Nelson said. "He really couldn't get the ball over two or three defenders so I figured he was going to go under or something. I just jumped up and made a play on the ball."

Kennedy was pleased with his team's performance and sees it as a building block for the rest of the season.

"For us, I thought it was a great emotional win for this group because, again, we're not playing

nearly as well as I think we're capable," he said.

"If we can ever find a rhythm offensively and knock down open shots and make our free throws and get into a rhythm, I think this team can exhale a little bit and then maybe take that next step."

The Rebels, who have struggled offensively all season, shot 38 percent (19-for-50) from the field and 33 percent from three-point range (7-for-21). Nelson, who came off the bench for Ole Miss, led the team with 17 points and finished 6-for-11 from the field, including 4-for-8 from behind the line.

"It felt good knocking some three-balls down," Nelson said. "I have worked so hard on them."

In the absence of junior forward Reginald Buckner, who is out with a knee injury, junior forward Murphy Holloway played 41 minutes and recorded his second double-double of the season with 13 points and a team-high 17 rebounds.

"This is definitely a game we can build on with confidence," Holloway said. "This is a real good win for us. Miami is a real good team. They have good guard play. They came in undefeated, so this is a good win for us. I think you build on it."

PLAYER OF THE GAME:

Holloway – With Buckner out, Holloway played 41 minutes and recorded his 16th career double-double, his second of the season, with 13 points and 17 rebounds.

QUOTE OF THE GAME:

"I think going into today I was at 44 percent. I was 50 percent today, so I am going up. That's all I can say." - Murphy Holloway on his free throw percentage for the season.

NEXT UP:

The Rebels face their first true road test Thursday, when they travel to Chicago to take on the DePaul Blue Demons (3-1) in the SEC/Big East Challenge. Tip-off is set for 8 p.m. from Allstate Arena, and the game will be televised nationally on ESPNU.

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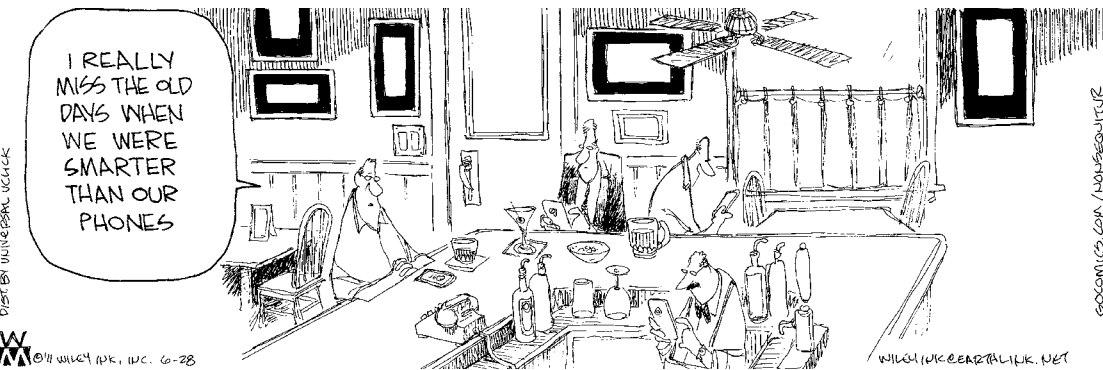
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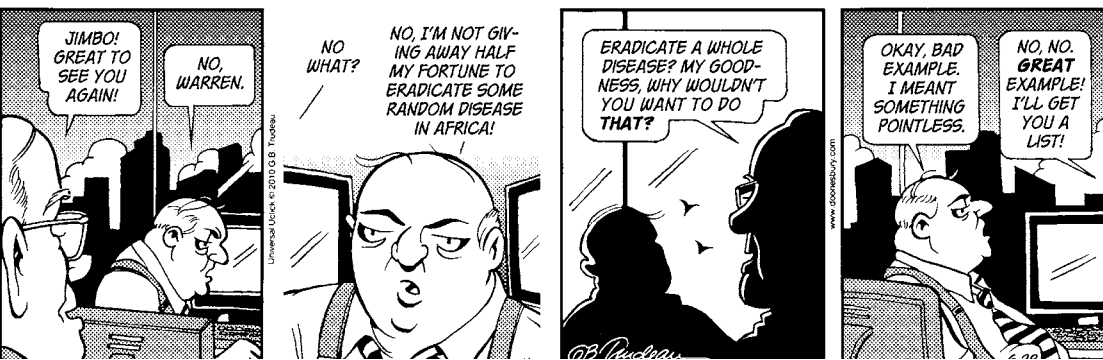
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7						9
				3	8	5
	6				3	
2	1	6				
6						4
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	7			4	9	

HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats

DIFFICULTY LEVEL



7	6	4	5	1	9	8	2	3
5	2	3	4	6	8	9	7	1
1	9	8	3	2	7	6	5	4
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3	4	9	8	5	2	1	6	7
2	8	1	6	7	3	4	9	5
9	1	6	7	4	5	2	3	8
8	7	2	9	3	1	5	4	6
4	3	5	2	8	6	7	1	9

ACROSS

- 1 Witty fellows
- 5 PC key
- 8 Pittdown man, e.g.
- 12 Audibly
- 14 Japanese soup
- 15 Mme.'s daughter
- 16 Fur piece
- 17 Part of WATS
- 18 Wednesday's god
- 19 The masses
- 21 Vegas hot spot
- 23 Six-pointers
- 24 Univ. degree
- 25 Poet's dusk
- 26 They have pseudopods
- 30 Sand mandala builders
- 32 Wolfpack sounds
- 33 Iditarod participants
- 37 Helm position
- 38 Eggs purchase
- 39 — Hari
- 40 — Hair (constellation near Leo)
- 42 Burr or Copland
- 43 Fringe benefits
- 44 Esoteric
- 45 So far — know
- 48 Natural elevs.
- 49 Casper's st.

DOWN

- 1 Stinging insect
- 2 Low voice
- 3 Gunk
- 4 Crewmate of Uhura
- 5 Limerick locale
- 6 NNW opposite
- 7 Carriage driver
- 8 RN employers
- 9 1950s record
- 10 Dress style (hyph.)
- 11 Inert gas
- 13 River-mouth deposits
- 14 Some Apples
- 20 Mag fillers
- 22 Economist — Smith
- 24 Grows ashen
- 26 Obsessed whaler
- 50 Restaurant worker
- 52 Shivered
- 57 Hay unit
- 58 Concept
- 60 1836 battle site
- 61 Kiln
- 62 Least-varying tide
- 63 Kind of boom
- 64 Experiment
- 65 Thicken
- 66 Sheet candy

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

CIAO	ROADS	SCAT
ALBS	ELTON	IONS
FELT	LETGO	GETA
EXERTION	WINNER	
IOO	MICA	
FORCES	CEILING	
SHAHS	SACS	BOA
TAI	EPCOT	IVY
ORD	GREY	BEZEL
PASSAGE	LOCALE	
WIRE	ISH	
TOLEDO	CATHODES	
APED	LLAMA	IRAQ
CINE	LEMON	NERF
TEDS	SASSY	GIST

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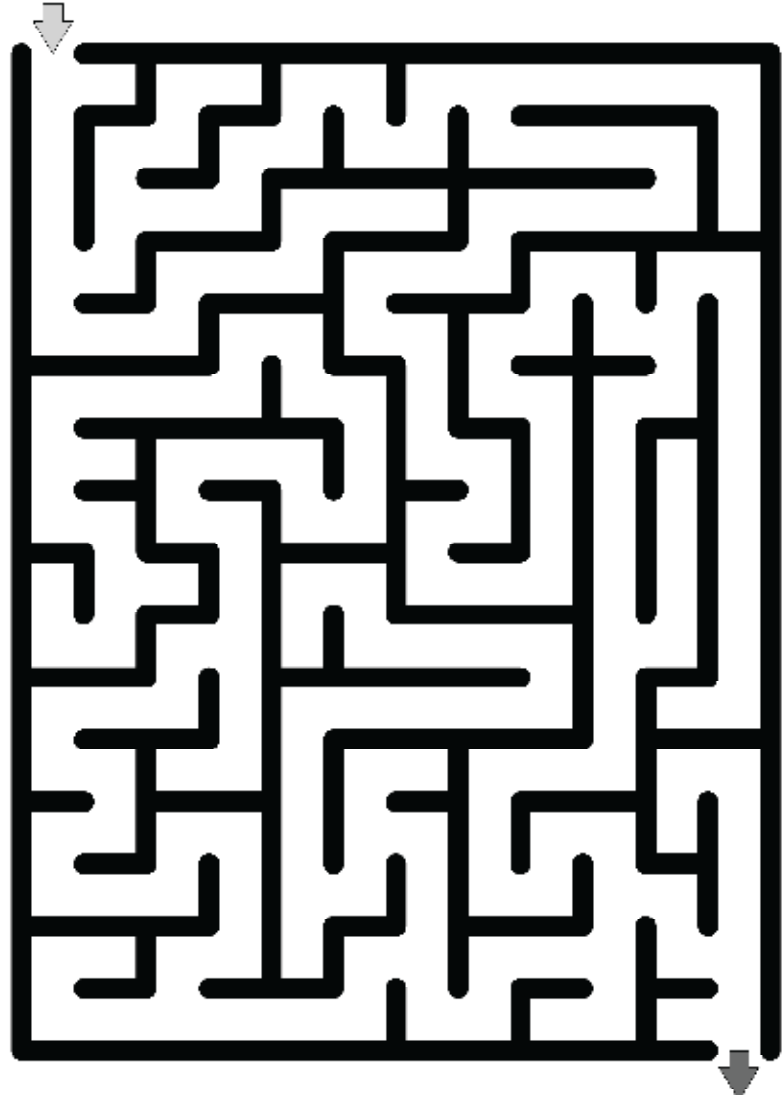
- 27 Burrowing animal
- 28 Jug
- 29 Censor
- 30 Does nothing
- 31 Wild shrub
- 33 Ridicules
- 34 Fictional plantation
- 35 Collar or jacket
- 36 Feasible
- 38 Smudging
- 41 "Nautilus" skipper
- 42 Good smells
- 44 Yes vote
- 45 Monks' superior
- 46 Urbane
- 47 Guernsey and Jersey
- 49 Bubble —
- 51 Aptitude
- 52 Duck or hue
- 53 Sci-fi menace
- 54 Smallville's Lang
- 55 Arab VIP
- 56 Wharf
- 59 Joey or Kiki

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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57										60		
61					62					63		
64					65					66		

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Hanging out to dry

BY AUSTIN MILLER
thedmsports@gmail.com

When it was announced Nov. 7 that head coach Houston Nutt would not return next season, he was left to coach the last three games of the 2011 season. It was not the swan song Nutt had in mind.

After blowout losses to Louisiana Tech and No. 1 LSU at home, the Houston Nutt era at Ole Miss (2-10, 0-8 SEC) reached its conclusion on a rain-soaked Saturday night in Starkville.

The result was clear from the beginning, as Mississippi State (6-6, 2-6 SEC) dominated from start to finish in a 31-3 win, their third straight win in the series and the Rebels' worst loss to the Bulldogs since 1919.

"It is hard for a younger group when they are told your coach is leaving," Nutt said. "It's just a really tough situation. It's not an excuse; it's a fact. It's hard. I would not have done it any other way. I wanted to finish out the year with them, but I wish things could have gone a little differently."

And so ends the 2011 football season, the program's first two-win season since 1946 and the first 10-loss season in a program, losses that included blowouts to No. 1 LSU and No. 2 Alabama as well as to Vanderbilt, Kentucky, Louisiana Tech and, most recently, Mississippi State.

In the short term, first-year wide receivers coach Gunter Brewer will lead the transition team from Nutt to the Rebels' new head coach, which includes recruiting and player relations. In the long term, that new head

coach will inherit a program that will carry a seven-game losing streak, as well as a school-record 14-game Southeastern Conference losing streak into the 2012 football season.

In the 2011 Egg Bowl, Mississippi State set the tone from the start with back-to-back powerful runs of 12 yards and 17 yards from senior quarterback Chris Relf. The Bulldogs found the end zone when Relf completed an 18-yard throwback pass to senior running back Vick Ballard.

On the ensuing kickoff, sophomore wide receiver Philander Moore returned the ball to near midfield before being hit and fumbling, which Mississippi State recovered at its own 46-yard line.

"We are a team that is very fragile, and you can't turn the ball over like we did on the kickoff," Nutt said. "When things go bad, they go bad. This is a team that just lacks a little confidence."

The Ole Miss defense forced a three-and-out, and junior Tyler Campbell flipped field position with a 59-yard punt that was downed at Mississippi State's own two-yard line. After four short gains and a costly 15-yard facemask penalty, Ballard broke a tackle from freshman safety Cody Prewitt and gained 21 yards to Mississippi State's own 46-yard line. Four plays later, Relf executed a perfectly-timed option pitch to sophomore LaDarius Perkins, who made Prewitt miss and went 36 yards for the touchdown.

"Just missed way too many tackles," Nutt said. "You can't give up anything, especially us. For us to win a game like this, we have to have something good to



PETRE THOMAS | The Daily Mississippian

Ole Miss football head coach Houston Nutt walks off the field in the driving rain after Saturday night's 31-3 loss at Mississippi State, the Rebels' worst loss to the Bulldogs since 1919. Nutt finishes his tenure as head coach with a 24-26 record, including a 10-22 mark in Southeastern Conference play.

us early. Get on the board, not fumble the kickoff, and you got to tackle."

The Rebels looked to turn the momentum when Prewitt intercepted a tipped pass as Ole Miss took over at Mississippi State's 40-yard line. Ole Miss went for it on fourth-and-five from the 35-yard line, but sophomore quarterback Barry Brunetti's swing pass to senior running back Brandon Bolden lost four yards.

The Bulldogs moved the ball into Ole Miss territory to the 31-yard line after 40 yards on four carries from Ballard and then into the red zone after a pass interference penalty. Relf capped the drive with a 20-yard touchdown pass to a wide open Perkins, who broke a tackle from senior safety Damien Jackson just short of the end zone. Mississippi State took a 21-0 lead into halftime after outgaining Ole Miss 252-65 in the first half, including 182-25 on the ground.

Any hopes of a second-half comeback for the Rebels were quickly lost when Bolden fumbled on the second play from scrimmage in the second half. Two plays later, Ballard ran untouched for a 25-yard touchdown. Ballard finished with 144 yards on 23 carries compared to

the Rebels' 92 yards on 42 carries as a team. Perkins and Relf added 64 yards and 49 yards, respectively, on the ground for the Bulldogs.

Ole Miss put points on the scoreboard later in third quarter, when junior kicker Bryson Rose connected on a 28-yard field goal, his ninth of the season. From that point on, the clock ticked away for Nutt and the Rebels, as the Bulldogs later added a 35-yard field goal to extend the lead to 31-3.

On the final drive of the season, Brunetti found junior tight end Jamal Mosley over the middle for a 61-yard gain inside Mississippi State's 10-yard line.

Two plays later, the Rebels scored an apparent three-yard touchdown pass from Brunetti to freshman wide receiver Donte Moncrief, but the call was reversed after further review. The next play, the last of the game, Brunetti was stopped for no gain.

In his second career start, his first since the season opener against BYU, Brunetti completed 12 of 22 passes for 110 yards while Moncrief broke Mike Espy's freshman record with 31 catches this season, including four passes for 20 yards in the game.

Men's hoops prevails in overtime win against Miami

BY DAVID HENSON
dahenson@olemiss.edu

In their first game back from the Paradise Jam Tournament, where they finished in third place with wins over Drake and TCU, Ole Miss (5-1) held on for a 64-61 overtime win over the Miami Hurricanes (4-1) at the Tad Smith Coliseum Friday afternoon.

The Rebels, who have struggled shooting early in the season, jumped out to a 17-0 lead, holding the Hurricanes scoreless until the 12:23 mark in the first half. Miami stormed back and grabbed a 25-24 lead with 1:41 left in the first half before Ole Miss scored the final five points of the half to take a 29-25 lead into halftime.

The Rebels led for most of the second half, but they could never put the Hurricanes away. Miami went on a 12-2 run to take a 53-48 lead with 4:50 to play in the game. Following a layup by Miami sophomore forward Erik Swoope, head coach Andy Kennedy called a timeout to regroup his team.

"I saw us lose our confidence a little bit," Kennedy said. "I saw some heads dropping. That can happen when young guys who don't have a lot of experience under their belt can't reflect on a lot of positive things simply because they haven't been down that road."


The Rebels responded and closed out the second half on a 6-1 run. Trailing Miami 54-53 with 12 seconds left in the game, Nelson drove to the basket, got fouled and went to the free throw line for two shots. He missed the first free throw, but made the second to tie the game at 54.

Miami senior guard Malcolm Grant, who led all scorers with



See HOOPS, PAGE 5




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